

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Original) A surgical instrument for accessing and illuminating a space within a body of a patient, comprising:
 - a retractor positionable with the body of the patient and including an inner wall surface defining a working channel therealong; and
 - a lighting element including at least one wall member and at least one light transmitting element along said at least one wall member, said at least one wall member positionable along said inner wall surface and frictionally engageable with said inner wall surface, said frictional engagement sufficient to maintain a position of said lighting element relative to said retractor.
2. (Original) The instrument of claim 1, wherein said at least one light transmitting element includes a plurality of light transmitting elements extending along and spaced about said at least one wall member.
3. (Original) The instrument of claim 2, wherein said at least one wall member includes an inner wall member and an outer wall member, said plurality of light transmitting elements being positioned in a passage between said inner wall member and said outer wall member.
4. (Original) The instrument of claim 2, wherein said plurality of light transmitting elements comprise optical fibers.
5. (Original) The instrument of claim 1, wherein said at least one wall member is bendable to conform to said inner wall surface.
6. (Original) The instrument of claim 1, wherein said inner wall surface of said retractor substantially encloses said working channel and said at least one wall member of said lighting element extends about at least 50 percent of said inner wall surface.

7. (Original) The instrument of claim 1, wherein said lighting element is movable axially along said inner wall surface while said at least one wall member maintains frictional engagement therewith.
8. (Original) The instrument of claim 1, wherein said lighting element is movable circumferentially along said inner wall surface while said at least one wall member maintains frictional engagement therewith.
9. (Original) The instrument of claim 1, wherein said at least one wall member includes a first wall member including a convexly curved surface positionable along said inner wall surface of said retractor and a second wall member including a concavely curved wall surface opposite